

ABSTRACT

WA-I-233

Late 18th Century

Ledy-Whitcomb House

Hagerstown Vicinity

private

This one and a half story stone house appears to have been built in at least two sections dating from the 18th and 19th centuries. It utilizes native limestone as the building material, a prominent characteristic of Washington County and Cumberland Valley house construction during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-233

District 9

Map 11

Parcel 5

2202205204

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Ledy-Whitcomb House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Marsh Pike just south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

☒ VICINITY OF Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Barbara B. Whitcomb

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route # 8, Box 154

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21740

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 395

Folio #: 606

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust Survey # 3045

DATE

Summer 1967

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

00-1230

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED > 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located on the east side of Marsh Pike just south of the Mason-Dixon Line in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated on an area of level ground with its principal elevation facing west. It would appear, however, that parts of the house were built with an eastern orientation.

The structure is a one and a half story, five bay dwelling built of roughly coursed local fieldstone. A one and a half story, two bay wing extends to the east. In the west elevation a vertical seam in the masonry can be seen just north of the entrance. This division in the stone work indicates that the house was built in stages. In the east elevation north of the seam are segmental arches of coursed stone above main story and cellar openings. Alterations in the masonry around these openings suggest that the window frames were replaced. All windows in the structure now have narrow wooden frames finished with a bead at the inside edge. These frames hold nine over six or six over six pane double hung sashes. In the portion of the house south of the seam and in the wing are small three over three sashes located under the eaves. Three gable-roofed dormers have been added to the west slope of the roof.

The main entrance is located in the center bay of the west elevation. It is framed similarly to the windows and includes a transom above the door.

The roof of the house has been sheathed with wooden shingles. Brick chimneys are located inside each gable end of the main section and a stone chimney extends from inside the end of the wing.

Adjoining the house is a garage and carriage house.

The house is in excellent condition and stands on a tract containing 2.54 acres. Just southwest of the house is a small cemetery where members of the Ledy family are buried. The three graves are for Henry Ledy who died in 1832, his wife, Anna Barbara Ledy who died in 1873 and a daughter, Susan Ledy whose death occurred in 1831.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

WA-I-233

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This one and a half story stone house appears to have been built in at least two sections dating from the 18th and 19th centuries. It utilizes native limestone as the building material, a prominent characteristic of Washington County and Cumberland Valley house construction during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

The vertical seam in the wall which separates the northern two bays from the rest of the structure would appear to divide 18th and 19th century portions of the house. The northern end of the house follows a stone cabin form and may have been a one story structure enlarged to its present height. The arched window and door heads located in the east elevation of this part of the house are suggestive of a building date in the third quarter of the 18th century or shortly thereafter. The stone additions may date from the second quarter of the 19th century.

The Washington County Land Records do not clearly define the history of this building's ownership. Apparently the property was part of a small farm made up of parts of the land grant, "Elysian Fields." On October 4, 1850, the heirs of Henry Ledy sold 48 acres and 138 perches to Daniel Myers (LBN2/717). In 1867 Daniel Myers sold the property then containing slightly more than 52 acres to John Wingert (WMcKK4/693). It descended through the Wingert and related families until 1935 when it was purchased by Stanley G. and Marguerite A. Moore, (125/729, 198/677). After several subsequent transactions it was purchased by the present owner in 1963 (214/227, 217/469).

The land grant, Elysian Fields, which consisted of 237 acres was patented to Samuel Douglass in 1788. He had acquired parts of several earlier grants, "Scott's Grief," "Work Easy," "Resurvey on Nicholas' Contrivance" and "Collier's Amendment," from his father, William Douglass. According to Herbert C. Bell's History of Leitersburg District, William Douglass resided on this land as early as 1765. In 1794, Samuel Douglass sold "Elysian Fields" to Ignatius Taylor (H/835). Taylor who called his purchase "Mt. Douglass" was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and served as Judge of the Washington County Orphans Court. He bore the military title of Major. It is not known at present whether William or Samuel Douglass or Ignatius Taylor resided in any part of this house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bell, Herbert C., History of Leitersburg District, Leitersburg, Md:  
the author, 1906.

Washington County Land Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.54 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

October 1976

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

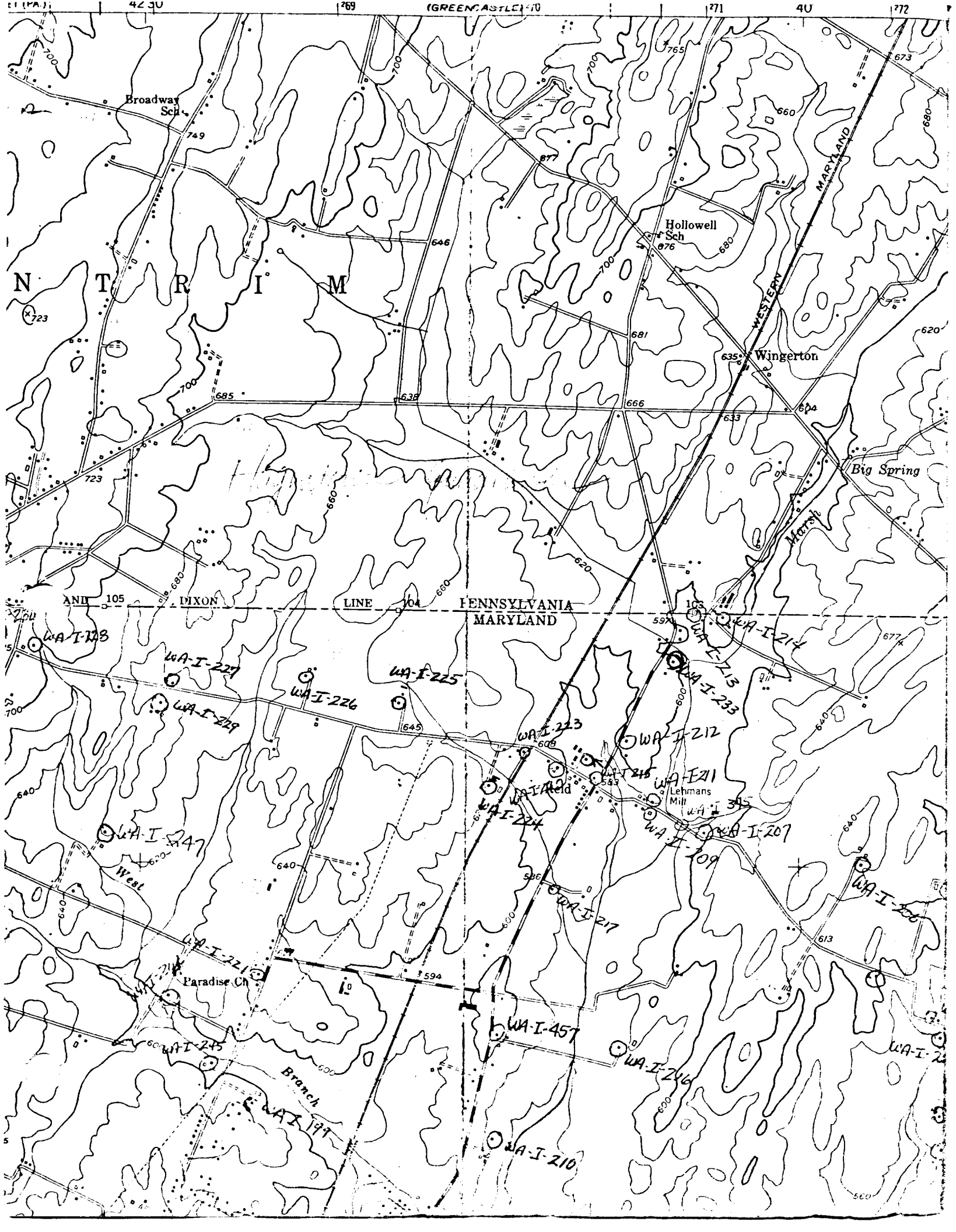
Maryland

21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438





PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY





6H-E-230

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12-1-55  
L. H. 501  
L. H. 501

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